DISABILITY **HISTORY**

SOCIETAL VALUES:

Physical perfection, beauty, intelligence.

indicates disability from a moral viewpoint

indicates disability from a medical viewpoint

indicates disability from a minority, or social, viewpoint

indicates a connection to a different time in history

*please note that not every event falls easily into one category; these color codes are used to indicate trends in how disability has been viewed over time.

Living conditions for persons with disabilities were brutal during this period. Some people were able to survive through acts of charity or as objects of curiosity, but most were not as fortunate. Intolerance, sickness, and disregard for persons with disabilities often meant death or a very low quality of life.



"disenfranchised" could include people with mental retardation, physical disability, or deformity.



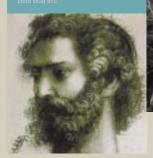
DISABILITY HAS ALWAYS BEEN, AND WILL LIKELY ALWAYS BE, A PART OF THE HUMAN CONDITION.

STEREOTYPE:

Holy Innocents: belief that individuals are special children of God, with a special purpose; seen as incapable of committing evil, and sometimes viewed as living saints.

INVOLVEMENT BY PERSONS WITH **DISABILITIES:**

Objects of scorn or charity, survival as beggars.







RESPONSES TO DISABILITY:

Abandonment, exposure, mutilation.

"There is only one good, knowledge, and one evil, ignorance.

Socrates

335 – 280 BC The physician Herophilus founds one of the earliest med-ical schools in Alexandria. He finds connections between brain defects and disability.

TIMELINE

470 - 399 BC The philosopher Socrates challenges Athenian citizens to con sider what constitutes a good quality of life.

130 – 200 AD The Greek physician and scholar Galen recognizes the brain as the central rgan of the nervous systen and the seat of intellect.